Claims:

1. An improved furfural extraction process for the extraction of aromatic type material from a hydrocarbon oil containing aromatic material, said process comprising contacting, in a unit, the hydrocarbon oil with a solvent comprising of furfural and a co-solvent selected from one or more aliphatic amides having less than 5 carbon atoms, to obtain increased raffinate yield by facilitating phase separation, while maintaining the same product quality as measured by raffinate refractive index.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is a lube distillate.

3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the aliphatic amide comprises of carbon chain having less than 3 carbon atoms.

4. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is selected from hydrocarbons having boiling point in the range of 300°C to 600°C.

5. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is selected from hydrocarbons having boiling point in the range of 370°C to 565°C

6. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the co-solvent is selected from the group comprising of formamide, N-methyl formamide, N,N Dimethyl formamide, acetamide, N-methyl acetamide, N,N Dimethyl acetamide, propionamide, N-methyl propionamide, and N,N Dimethyl propionamide.

7. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of furfural to the co-solvent is in the range of 70:30 to 95:5.

8. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the yield of raffinate increases by more than 3vol%

9. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the yield of raffinate increases by more than 5vol%.

10. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent dosage is less than 250vol%.

11. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent dosage is less than 180vol%.

12. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent dosage is less than 150vol%.

13. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the furfural-co-solvent mixture shows improved stability.

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